

Message Text

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SUBJ: CRITICISM OF CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL KOREAGATE INQUIRY

SUMMARY: MARCH 28 KOREA TIMES CARRIED MAJOR COMMENTARY BY
PROF. KIM CHUN-YOP, NOTED HISTORIAN AND DIRECTOR, ASIATIC RE-
SEARCH CENTER, KOREA UNIVERSITY, KIM SEES KOREA-US RELATIONS
JEOPARDIZED BY A NEW "ARROGANCE OF POWER", EXHIBITED BY
REP. DONALD FRASER AND THOSE ADVOCATING CUT-OFF OF US AID TO
KOREA UNLESS ROKG COOPERATES FULLY IN KOREAGATE AFFAIR.

1. CITING FULBRIGHT'S BOOK, KIM CONTENDS "THE ARROGANCE OF
POWER HAS FOUND A NEW OUTLET; KOREA". "MANY AMERICAN
POLITICIANS SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT IT IS PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT
FOR THEM TO TELL KOREA TO DO THIS OR THAT OR ELSE FACE THE
DIRE CONSEQUENCES OF AMERICAN DISPLEASURE". KIM SEES
REP. FRASER LEADING THE US "INTO ANOTHER WITCH-HUNTING
HYSTERIA" AND A "NEW SEARCH FOR SCAPEGOATS"
REMINISCENT OF MCCARTHYISM. KIM POSTULATES, "THE
CURRENT ANTI-KOREAN CAMPAIGN CLEARLY DERIVES FROM THE
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LIBERAL CRITIQUE OF VIETNAM" IN WHICH "IT MAKES SENSE
TO HUNT DOWN WITCHES RESPONSIBLE FOR INVOLVING THE US
IN ANOTHER ASIAN COUNTRY WHERE THE UNITED STATES SHOULD
NOT GET INVOLVED".

2. HOWEVER, KIM "REFUSE(S) TO SEE FRASERISM AS
REPRESENTING A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN THE NATURE OF THE

AMERICAN BODY POLITIC", BELIEVING TIT TO BE A "PASSING ABERRATION" AND HOPING "DECENT, SERIOUS AND SOBER AMERICANS CAN PUT THE FRASERS AND JAWORSKIS IN THEIR PROPER PLACE, RESTORING ONCE AGAIN COMMON SENSE AND A SENSE OF BALANCE TO THE AMERICAN POLITICAL PROCESS". "KOREA HAS NO ALTERNATIVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS" --"FOR KOREA TO GIVE IN TO UNDUE PRESSURE AND DANCE ACCORDING TO THE TUNE OF SOME MISGUIDED AMERICAN POLITICIANS, I BELIEVE, CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING: THE END OF KOREA AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION".

3. KIM MENTIONS INTELLIGENCE REPORTS REFERRED TO BY FRASER COMMITTEE, NOTING, "THOSE REPORTS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN BASED ON OVERT LEGAL MEANS OF INFORMATION-GATHERING" AND THEREFORE "CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING, NAMELY THAT THE US GOVERNMENT HAS VIOLATED THE INTEGRITY OF KOREAN LEGAL AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS". "THIS IS AN ADMISSION OF A CRIME WHICH MAKES ALL OF HIS ANTI-KOREAN ALLEGATIONS AND ACCUSATIONS PALE IN COMPARISON".

4. COMMENT: DR. KIM'S COMMENTARY REPRESENTS A GENERAL KOREAN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE CURRENT PHASE OF CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY INTO THE KOREAGATE AFFAIR. EMBASSY PRESENTS DR. KIM'S VIEWS AT SOME LENGTH HERE, SINCE HE IS REGARDED IN KOREA AND BY EMBASSY AS WELL AS A FOREMOST SCHOLAR, NOTED FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OBJECTIVE VIEWS. DR. KIM, WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE KOREAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT IN CHINA, WAS EXCHANGE PROFESSOR AT BOTH HARVARD AND PRINCETON, AND HAS HEADED THE HIGHLY REGARDED ASIATIC RESEARCH CENTER SINCE 1969. SNEIDER

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